

# Hall of Justice volunteers bring judicial branch to life

Anyone curious about how the judicial branch of government affects the lives of Michigan residents should give the volunteers at Michigan Supreme Court Learning Center an hour.

The Learning Center, located on first floor of the Michigan Hall of Justice in Lansing, is designed to introduce school children and adults to the Michigan court system and a variety of law related topics. Visitors — a majority of whom are students — come away with a better understanding of the judicial branch of government.

"I saw this as an opportunity to share my interests with others," says Brianne Gidcumb, a Lansing resident and student at Michigan State University College of Law. "Laws are created to help people and

society function well."

Mary Allen-Moore and Jacqueline Allen, also of Lansing, decided to share their time with others as well as each other, volunteering as a mother-daughter team.

"Volunteers make our tour program possible," Learning Center Coordinator Rachael L. Drenovsky said. "These talented people serve thousands of visitors per year."

Ten volunteers completed an orientation program that prepared them to guide tours and to assist groups that visit the award-winning gallery.

To schedule a tour or become a volunteer, call (517) 373-7229 or (517) 373-5027. For more information about the Learning Center, visit <http://courts.mi.gov/plc/> online.



**HALLS OF JUSTICE** — Mary Allen-Moore of Lansing (left) explains a Learning Center exhibit to fellow volunteers. Photo courtesy of Michigan Supreme Court Office of Public Information.

Courtesy photo

## Fast Facts

**Hours:** Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Closed on state holidays.

**Location:** First floor of the Michigan Hall of Justice, 925 W. Ottawa St. (corner of Allegan Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Boulevard).

**Cost:** Admission is free.

**Parking:** East of the Michigan Hall of Justice; buses park in the Michigan Historical Center bus parking lot on Butler Street.

**Group tours:** For reservations, call (517) 373-7229.

**Volunteers:** Needed as tour guides and for special projects. Call (517) 373-5027.